

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended): A backlight used for a liquid crystal display device comprising:

a bandpass filter that selectively allows blue light having a center wavelength in a range of 400-440 nm, green light having a center wavelength in a range of 520-530 nm and red light having a center wavelength in a range of 620-640 nm, respectively, to pass therethrough; and

a light source that emits at least light of the wavelength ranges towards the bandpass filter.
2. (Original): The backlight according to claim 1, wherein any one of a prism sheet and a directional optical transmission member, each having a prism structure capable of increasing the component of light perpendicularly incident from the light source on the bandpass filter, is disposed between the light source and the bandpass filter.
3. (Previously presented): The backlight according to claim 1, wherein the bandpass filter is formed by using cholesteric liquid crystal.
4. (Currently amended): The backlight according to claim 3, wherein the bandpass filter is formed by laminating together cholesteric liquid crystal layers, which respectively allow blue light having a center wavelength in the range of 400-440 nm, green light having a center wavelength in the range of 520-530 nm and red light having a center wavelength in the range

of 620-640 nm to pass therethrough, and a reflection polarizer disposed close to the light source.

5. (Original): The backlight according to claim 3, wherein the bandpass filter is formed by having a half wavelength plate held between cholesteric liquid crystal layers that respectively reflect circularly polarized light of the same circular polarization as each other.

6. (Original): The backlight according to claim 5, wherein the half wavelength plate is a broadband half wavelength plate that corresponds to the visible light range.

7. (Original): The backlight according to claim 5, wherein the half wavelength plate is formed by using liquid crystal polymer.

8. (Previously presented): The backlight according to claim 3, wherein the bandpass filter is formed by laminating together cholesteric liquid crystal layers that respectively reflect circularly polarized light of the opposite circular polarizations.

9. (Currently amended): The backlight according to claim 5, wherein of the cholesteric liquid crystal layers, one cholesteric liquid crystal layer disposed close to the light source reflects circularly polarized light of a wide wavelength range corresponding to the visible light range, while another cholesteric liquid crystal layer allows blue light having a center wavelength in the range of 400-440 nm, green light having a center wavelength in the range of 520-530 nm and red light having a center wavelength in the range of 620-640 nm to pass therethrough.

10. (Previously presented): The backlight according to claim 1, wherein the bandpass filter comprises a multilayer lamination of resin films respectively having different refractive indexes.

11. (Original): The backlight according to claim 10, wherein the multilayer lamination of the resin films is formed through film deposition.

12. (Original): The backlight according to claim 10, wherein the multilayer lamination of the resin films is formed through multilayer extrusion and then stretching.

13. (Original): The backlight according to claim 12, wherein the multilayer lamination of the resin films is formed through multilayer extrusion and then biaxial stretching.

14. (Original): The backlight according to claim 12, wherein the resin films have birefringence anisotropy by being subjected to stretching and orientation, and the multilayer lamination of the resin films are formed through multilayer extrusion and then biaxial stretching.

15. (Previously presented): The backlight according to claim 1, wherein the bandpass filter comprises a multilayer lamination of dielectric films respectively having different refractive indexes.

16. (Previously presented): A liquid crystal display device comprising a liquid crystal cell and the backlight according claim 1.

17. (Original): The liquid crystal display device according to claim 16, further comprising a diffusing plate disposed between the backlight and the liquid crystal cell.

18. (New): The backlight according to claim 4, wherein the reflection polarizer is a circularly-polarized reflective polarizer.

19. (New): The backlight according to claim 4, wherein the reflection polarizer is a linearly-polarized reflective polarizer, and the bandpass filter further comprises a quarterwave plate.

20. (New): The backlight according to claim 4, wherein the bandpass filter further comprises a halfwave plate disposed between the reflective polarizer and the quarterwave plate.